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CLAIMS:

1.   A method of running an algorithm wherein the algorithm comprises a first function and a second function, the method comprising the following steps:

a first step of requesting an algorithm resource by the algorithm to provide a plurality of output quality levels,

5   a second step of determining that the first function provides a first plurality of quality levels and the second function provides a second plurality of quality levels,

a third step of allocating a budget to the algorithm to enable operating the algorithm at a output quality level, said output quality level being one of the plurality of output quality levels,

10   a fourth step of assigning a first quality level of the first plurality of quality levels to the first function and of assigning a second quality level of the second plurality of quality levels to the second function.

2.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 1, further comprising a

15   fifth step of determining that the first function, while providing the first quality level, can be operated at a plurality of levels of complexity.

3.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 1, further comprising the following steps:

20   a sixth step of operating the algorithm at the output quality level.

a seventh step of operating the first function at the first quality level while consuming a first amount of resources by the first function and operating the second function at the second quality level while consuming a second amount of resources by the second function.

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4.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 3, further comprising an eighth step of operating the first function at a least complex level of the plurality of levels of complexity.

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5.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 1, wherein the allocated budget is substantially equal to the requested algorithm resource.

6.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 3, wherein the first

5   amount of resources in addition to the second amount of resources is substantially equal to the allocated budget.

7.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 1, further comprising a ninth step of determining a hardware platform operating said method to determine the

10   algorithm resource and the plurality of output quality levels.

8.   A method of running an algorithm according to claim 1, further comprising an tenth step of determining a software platform operating said method to determine the algorithm resource and the plurality of output quality levels.

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9.   A system for running an algorithm wherein the algorithm comprises a first function and a second function, the system comprising:
            function means (404, 406) conceived to contain the first function of the algorithm and a second function of the algorithm,

20   lookup means (402) conceived to contain a plurality of output quality levels that can be provided by the algorithm, a first plurality of quality level settings of the first function and a second plurality of quality level settings of the second function.

10.   A system for running an algorithm according to claim 9, wherein at least one

25   output quality level of said plurality of output quality levels can be provided by the algorithm for at least one first quality level setting of said first plurality of quality level settings and at least one second quality level setting of said second plurality of quality level settings.

11.   A system for running an algorithm according to claim 10, further comprising:

30   a complexity means (418) conceived to contain a plurality of levels of complexity of operation for said at least one first quality level setting.

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12.   A system for running an algorithm according to claim 9, further comprising a hardware configuration means (426) conceived to contain a hardware platform configuration of the system to determine at least said plurality of output quality levels.

5   13.   A system for running a algorithm according to claim 9, further comprising a software configuration means (428) conceived to contain a software platform configuration of the system to determine at least said plurality of output quality levels.

14.   A computer program product arranged to perform the method according to any 10 of the claims 1 to 8.

15.   A storage device (500) comprising a computer program product according to claim 14.

15   16.   A television set (610) comprising a system according to any of the claims 9 to 13.

17.   A set-top box (702) comprising a system according to any of the claims 9 to 13.